

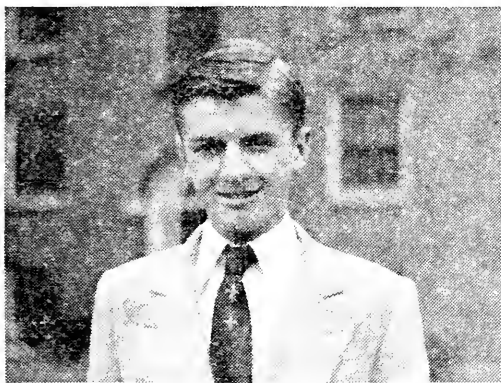
THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Vol. 59 No. 2 Printed at The Farm and Trades School, Boston, Mass. June, 1955

Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

Boy of the Month

GERALD LESLIE BRIGGS is our Boy of the Month. He is seventeen years of age, weighs 145 pounds and is five foot nine inches tall. He was born in Stoneham. He came to F. T. S. in April, 1952. He is a member of the graduating class.



Gerald L. Briggs

He has one aim in life, and that is to be a top notch steam and diesel engineer. He works in our power house, and is happiest when he is assisting our engineer, whether the time be his work time or his spare time. Lately he helped do the electrical work in rewiring a new apartment in Bowditch, and in the installation of a new bathroom in the main building. He has learned much about steam boilers and their maintenance.

Of course all is not work in his school life. He likes all sports and won his

Valedictory

By Headmaster William M. Meacham

With this issue of the BEACON we are ringing down the curtain on a period in the School's long and noble service to youth marked by a great global war, the more recent Korean conflict, and a transition era from an orphanage type of institution to that of a well recognized home-school with all of the best things of life which are so well known in this type of organization.

Please turn to Page Four

varsity football letter last fall. He plays intramural softball and basketball. He likes tennis, and is a good swimmer.

He has worked on our farm during the busy summer season. He also worked for one year on the PILGRIM III. For the past year and a half he has been a mainstay on our power house staff.

He is a Charles Hayden scholarship winner, and has been a member of the school band for the past two years. He has won two First Prize conduct awards, among others. His hobbies include all outdoor sports, especially hunting and fishing. He received his Massachusetts driver's license this spring.

Beautiful Canada

Canada is the world's third largest country. Only Russia and China are larger. Canada covers 3,843,144 square

miles. That area is about as great as the U. S. and Mexico combined.

In spite of its bigness, Canada has only about one-twelfth as many people as has the United States. Fewer people live in Canada than live in our state of New York. Almost all Canadians (90%) live within 150 miles of the U. S. border. Only a few cities are more than 60 miles from the border. The population is spread along the southern edge of the country.

The sea is very important to the people of the Maritime Provinces. In fact "Maritime" means "on the sea." These provinces include Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland (including Labrador).

Nova Scotia comes very close to being an island. Only a narrow strip of land connects it with its sister province, New Brunswick. The northern part of Nova Scotia is really an island, Cape Breton Island. Halifax is the capital of Nova Scotia. It is also the largest city in Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia means New Scotland. The early Scots who came to Nova Scotia felt at home. The new shore looked very much like the shore they had left.

A few Nova Scotians still speak Gaelic, the old language of Scotland. They dance the Highland Fling to the tune of the noisy bagpipe.

The people of Nova Scotia are sometimes called "Bluenoses." The name probably comes from the bitter winter weather which makes noses blue with cold.

Canadians and United States citizens share many of the same ideas. Many families in Canada have relatives in our country.

We are both Americans. We have the identical zeal and love for freedom which has made both countries great.

Ronald L. Zisk

Mom's Bird

My father told me that Mom had a bird pet once. A little English sparrow used to sit on the pantry window sill. It would give a chirp and then Mom would whistle. The bird would then jump around chirping.

It was not hungry, for when she threw it crumbs it rarely ate them, but would sit there chirping, and occasionally flapping its wings, as if trying to make a friendly conversation.

Christopher A. Routenberg

The Pilot Ship

One morning as I was looking out my window in A House I saw a sailing ship of about 100 foot in length sailing down the harbor on its way to sea. This ship resembled one of the fishing schooners of the past, having two masts and a sizable spread of sail. This was the Pilot ship, and has the job of cruising up and down the coast of Boston, putting pilots aboard incoming vessels as they are wanted. A ship wanting a pilot raises a yellow and blue flag.

Putting a pilot aboard a ship is an easy task in fair weather, but a rather tricky job when the weather is foul. The schooner tows a small dory and the pilot is taken to the side of the ship in this dory. When on the ship, a red and white flag is raised, the signal for pilot aboard.

Pilots are necessary because the entrance to Boston Harbor is difficult to navigate. The pilot ship carries an auxiliary diesel engine, and radar.

Albert K. Ellis

The First Astronomers

The first astronomers were shepherds who watched their flocks by night. In Chaldea and Egypt, in India and China, men studied the skies three thousand years

before the Wise Men of the East followed the Star to Bethlehem.

Chinese astronomers had to prophesy the date when an eclipse of the sun would take place. If they failed in their prophecy they were killed.

It was not until the time of Thales, one of the seven wise men of Greece, that astronomy was placed on a really scientific basis.

Charles J. Brooks

Farm Work

I work on the farm, which I think is the best job at the school. Here we learn how to take care of animals, how to use tools, and learn how a farm is operated. This is the busy season on the farm, for we are getting the seeds in the ground. Last week we set out the new strawberry bed.

William E. Stewart

Lost

One summer my mother and I were visiting my sister in Virginia. One day I was outdoors playing and saw a steam roller working on the road.

I followed it to the other side of town. Finally I realized I was lost and could not find the way back to my sister's house.

I kept walking up and down the sidewalk until a colored man asked me if I was lost. I told him "Yes." He took me to a police car around the corner.

They asked me what street I lived on. I told them and they took me home.

Richard L. Sawyer

Hurricane Group

I came to this school on September 5, 1953. We were supposed to meet the boat in the morning, but hurricane warnings were up, and the trip was postponed until late afternoon. There was no hurricane anyway. We got to the school and met Mr. Albee, who took us

to the dormitories and talked with us for a time. Then we went to the beach, where we had a cookout. Next day school began, and I and my twin brother who came with me were seventh graders. I worked in dormitory A. Later I was changed to the dining room, then sewing room and now I work in Dormitory B. I hope I can work in the kitchen at the next change of work.

Ronald A. Oke

A Smart Dog

Although my dog "Blackie" is only two years old he is very smart. He does many tricks, which seem to prove that he can think quickly and clearly. It is quite easy to teach him tricks. One night Blackie woke me and, sure enough, there was a noise in the kitchen. Blackie and I went downstairs, but everything was all right. My dad was getting a snack.

Albert E. Merrill

My Dog Rusty

Anyone can tell at a glance that my dog Rusty is a mongrel. He is the strangest looking dog that I have ever seen. He has big, long ears, and a short and stubby tail which looks as though it were cut off. His face is long and sad, and he has big brown eyes. One would think he is going to cry. When he runs you would think he would fall on his face, and his hind legs keep right on going. With all his faults, I will never give up my dog Rusty.

Richard T. Castonguay

The baseball and softball schedules are well underway, and most of the boys are members of one of the five participating teams. We are fortunate in having both good softball and baseball diamonds, and scarcely is there a recreation period when both are not in use.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

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Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

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Term Expires 1958

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Donald S. MacPherson

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James H. Lowell

Charles T. Mason

Continued from Page One

This School, situated as it is on a great island campus, can be compared in management to a great ocean liner. The owners, represented by a Board of Directors, engage a Captain, or in this case, a Headmaster, to whom they entrust the lives and general welfare of the crew and passengers, as well as the financial prosperity of the Ship. Nearly 29 years ago *this ship* was placed under its present Captain who, at the end of this month of June, 1955, will be moving out of the pilot house and turning the *charts* over to a new Captain, one who also comes from the Green Mountain State, a line unbroken since 1888.

How well the School has fared during these past 29 years is shown by its record of financial assets increasing to more than four times its 1926 total, its farm modernized with all new electric and automotive equipment and its food and forage production raised to more than three times its previous level. The School's boats passed in this time from steam to modern gasoline-powered engines, and the school's equipment is now run by more than forty electric motors by the 4,400-volt electric underground and underwater cables originally engineered and installed by the present regime.

During this time the standards of the food have been raised to a very high level, and living facilities and conditions have been advanced from mere sleeping quarters in large open, unheated dormitory rooms with rows of white painted iron cots to homey cottage dormitories with all of the facilities and advantages of the best established homes and schools.

Practically every modern convenience has been installed for the more adequate living of the boys, the staff and their families of small children, including such

The greatest need of the world to-day is the rebuilding of the Christian spirit of service, the basic development plan at our home school. Why not help a fine, worthy boy achieve his goal by making a financial contribution to America's best investment?

modern equipment as a cream separator, milk pasteurizer, sterilizing equipment, electric refrigerators, food freezer, ice cube maker, motor driven food mixers, choppers and vegetable peeler, gas stoves and ovens, television sets, sound-movie projector, loud-speaker systems indoors and out, the best of athletic fields, play grounds and equipment, and ocean swimming facilities. The Band and a rather recently organized Boy Scout Troop have both reached high levels of achievement. The wood working department is unsurpassed.

Academically the boys are now receiving standard school instruction comparable to the best public schools as far as our school extends, namely the 10th year and its 11th post-graduate year of study. All schools and colleges accept our boys and their academic work as far as the studies extend, and they send back really glowing reports of the quality of our graduates and their achievements. In recent years our boys have graduated from M. I. T., Middlebury College, several State Universities and a score or more of other institutions of higher learning.

In World War II more than 200 of our boys saw service and 62% of them received officer ratings, as compared to 48% of all United States forces being so recognized. Leadership and responsibility very apparently paid big dividends even though most of these lads did not have the advantages of West Point or Annapolis nor college degrees.

Our success is measured in terms of our alumni. We are proud of our alumni, they stand very high in their vocations, their communities and in their family and Church life. We are, therefore, proud of our own part in the great achievements of this home-school during this era of its history.

On behalf of Mrs. Meacham, and myself, our own children, Bill, Lin and Jo, who have grown up here and are numbered among the honored alumni of this great little school, thank you all, our vast community and family of friends, for all you have meant to us during these 29 years. We hope you will all visit us frequently in our new home and always remember that we are still important to each other even though the good ship Farm and Trades School, under this or any other name, is henceforth the responsibility of a new Captain.

Here's to My Successor

Here is a toast I want to drink
To the fellow who'll take my place.
I'd like to give him the cheering word
That I've longed at times to hear.
I've learned my knowledge by sheer hard
work,
And I wish I could pass it on
To the fellow who'll come to take my place,
The day when I am gone.

I dare to hope he may pause some day
As he toils, as I have wrought,
And gain some strength for his weary task
From the battles which I have fought.
But I've only the task itself to leave,
With the cares for him to face,
Though I'd like to speak a cheering word,
To the fellow who'll take my place.

Then here's a toast to your health, old chap,
And may Good Luck be your guide!
I couldn't do all I wanted to,
No matter how hard I tried.
I've dreamed my dreams as all men do,
But the dreams didn't all come true,
And my prayer today is
That all my dreams may be realized
by you!

Author Unknown

Topics in Brief

This has been a busy month for our Band. The boys took part in the Northeastern School Music Festival in Beverly on May 7, at which time they were on a radio broadcast and did a marching drill in the stadium as a feature of the activities. On May 14 the Southeastern festival took place in Mansfield, and this was truly a wonderful event. On the 21st the boys were at the University of Rhode Island for participation in the New England School Music Festival. The Band did splendidly in all of these gala school music events, and we are all very proud of the highest possible awards which the boys received.

The annual banquet of the graduating class was held on May 12. The class worked diligently for some time with plans for the event, and with the assistance of our kitchen and dining room department instructors, the banquet was a huge success. Loren E. Cain, class president, was toastmaster. Mr. Meacham headed a list of speakers, which included staff members and the president of the freshman class.

Our farm, as may well be imagined, has had a busy month. The planting schedule has been maintained, in spite of a period of not-so-good weather. The recent gift of an orchard sprayer from Mr. Rimbach, father of a recent staff member, is appreciated. The farm has delivered rhubarb, asparagus and radishes in quantity to our kitchen.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Bond, having heard that our Band was to be at the campus of the University of Rhode Island on May 21, voluntarily acted as host and hostess for the boys. They made arrangements for the group to have lunch at a lakeshore picnic grounds, then

escorted the group through some of the agricultural buildings. The boys also saw part of a high school track meet. The kindness of the Bonds is very much appreciated. Mr. Bond is a member of the University faculty. He and Mrs. Bond were at our school as instructors in 1931.

Each of the boys cares for an individual flower garden plot each year and at the close of the summer season prizes are awarded those who have excelled in this work. This has been a busy period at the flower garden location and it will not be too long before the area will be known as one of the real beauty spots of our island campus.

It was our privilege to have the General Electric "House of Magic Science Show" at our school on May 26. The purpose of the show is two-fold, to interest young people in following a scientific career and to demonstrate a little of the results of the research department of a large corporation. Mr. Russell, of the General Electric Company, demonstrated the use of stroboscopic lighting, plastic foam insulation, and how engineers are enabled to study machines at work far beyond their rated capacity, among other things. It was a good show for our boys, as it stripped samples of research from their scientific mysteries so that even the youngest lad could understand what was being demonstrated.

Spring is certainly a busy season at the School, as we strive to accomplish the essential necessary outdoor work. Our expansive lawns, ball fields, garden plots, shrubbery and other campus areas all need considerable care to maintain them in their customary loveliness. Most of the boys have had some part in this maintenance work during the month.

A Gutenberg Incident

In the middle of the fifteenth century Johann Gutenberg devised a method of printing from movable type. One morning Johann Fust, a goldsmith and capitalist approached Gutenberg with the proposition that the Bible be printed, as beautiful as the Cathedral it would be read in. Gutenberg, in all his life, never had much money and was glad of the chance. He was advanced 800 gulden, or about \$550 in our money. This was no way near enough, so another loan of the same amount was made. Among the men that Gutengerg hired was Peter Schoeffer, an admirer of Herr Fust's daughter.

After the third loan, and a delay of two or three years Herr Fust became disgusted with the slow progress. Gutenberg insisted that every detail be perfect, and it took time to make the type. Finally Herr Fust took Gutenberg to court and won the case. Eventually Fust and Schoeffer were the outstanding printers in the land. Gutenberg retired to almost obscurity, although Archbishop Adolf of Mainz appointed him courier for life, perhaps because of Gutenberg's contribution to typography.

Although Gutenberg has been given full credit for the printing of the first Bible, the truth probably is that although it was a product of his mind, the actual printing was done by Fust and Schoeffer. Gutenberg had, however, most certainly produced other noted printed works long before the great Bible, and his fame is secure.

Gary D. Schoonmaker

Memorial Sunday Service

On Sunday morning, May 29, we held a simple, though beautiful and impressive, memorial service at our little south end cemetery. Loren E. Cain, president of the graduating class, directed

the service. Music was furnished by a brass quintet, consisting of Loren Cain, Robert Grignon, Malcolm Cameron, William James and Paul Parker. Four hymns were sung, and the quintet played a special number. Poems were read by Harold Spurling, Basil Veglas, and Carleton Skinner. The prayer and benediction were given by Mr. Beauregard. Mr. Meacham spoke of the purpose of Memorial Day and how it originated. The service closed with the decorating of each of the graves with flowers and flags.

Additional Alumni Notes

GEORGE D. RUSSELL, '24, is a retired Chief Warrant Officer, USA. This does not mean that he has retired from work, however, for he is employed as bookkeeper by one of the largest apple orchards in New Hampshire, the Pinnacle Farm. He writes that this work, together with the work he does around his home in Meredith, keeps him busy. He recently entered a subscription to the BEACON. His home address is RFD No. 2, Meredith, N. H.

LEANDER E. DOREY, '23, is a chief warrant officer in the U. S. Marine Corps, a service he joined some 30 years ago. He writes that he is being assigned duty at the Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California, this July. For the past 31 months he has been stationed in Washington, D. C. as Assistant Aviation Electronics Logistics Officer. He has already moved his household to California, and Mrs. Dorey and his two daughters are at the new Dorey Home at 490 East 19th Street, Costa Mesa, California.

NOTE: The final article in the reprint series of the Farm School Offering, originally published in May, 1859, will appear in our next issue.

The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

JOHN PATTERSON '43 President
W. Medford, Mass.
DONALD S. MACPHERSON '17, Treasurer
Wollaston, Mass.

WILLIAM C. BURNS, '37, Vice-President
No. Wilmington, Mass.

GEORGE O. POOLE '27, Secretary
Medford, Mass.
G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian
Hyde Park, Mass.

A Resolution

In the recent passing of SILAS SNOW '94, we have lost a true and devoted alumnus. The Resolution printed below speaks eloquently of Mr. Snow, and we are pleased to have the privilege of printing it in the BEACON. It was prepared by the trustees of the Northampton Institution for Savings.

"Today, the chair filled for many years by our Fellow Trustee, Silas Snow, is vacant and speaks eloquently to us of him whose attendance at our meetings has been so faithfully observed.

"Silas Snow became a corporator of this Institution in 1922, and a member of the Board of Trustees in 1936. During all the subsequent years he has rarely been absent from our meetings. He has contributed much, in time and devotion, to our interests. He will be greatly missed.

"Born in Boston, December 24, 1877, he came to make his home in Williamsburg in 1894, where he married Frances Clary, the daughter of Dwight Clary. They lived in the Clary brick house on the old Hyde farm in Searsville. There Mr. Snow successfully operated the farm: their delightful house, an inn in stage coach days, became the home of three sons born to them, and, through the years, a horde of summer boarders who came to think of the house as home.

"Mr. Snow was a member of the Men's Club of the Congregational Church, a charter member of Williamsburg Grange, for several years Assessor and Selectman, a trustee of Hampshire County Extension Service, member of Franklin Harvest Club, director of the Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Agricultural Society. He

was interested and active in many civic undertakings and found himself engaged in many enterprises other than his vocation of farming.

"Be it Resolved, that, in his years of association with us, we have enjoyed our contacts with him, he has been willing and loyal in co-operation with, and helpful to, us; in his death, we have lost a true friend and valued assistant.

"Be it further Resolved, that a copy of these remarks be spread upon our records, a copy sent to Mrs. Snow, and a copy to the Hampshire Gazette."

NOTE: Silas Snow came to the School in 1885, and graduated in 1894. He went to Williamsburg to work on the farm owned by Dwight E. Clary. Later he worked in Brooklyn, N. Y. as a private secretary. In 1908, when Miss Francis Ward Clary graduated from Smith College, Silas returned to Williamsburg, married Miss Clary, and they made the Clary farm their permanent home. Three sons were born to the Snows, Dwight, a business executive, Davis, who made a career in the U. S. Army and Austin, a well known ball player and coach of athletics.

Mr. Snow and Mrs. Snow filled many positions of responsibility in their community. Mrs. Snow wrote a history of Williamsburg, and served on the school committee. Mr. Snow was an assessor, member of the town finance board, and a corporator of the Northampton institution for Savings, and held many other positions of trust. He served the School as a member of the Board of Trustees for the years 1942-1945.

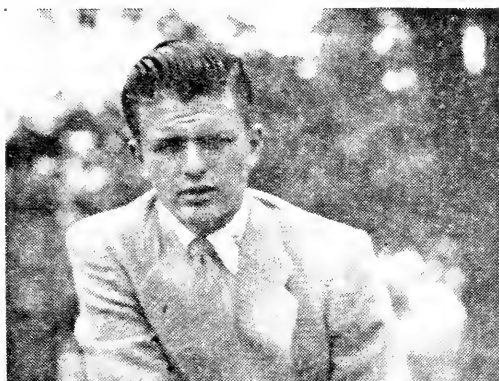
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Boy of the Month

ALBERT EUGENE MERRILL is our Boy of the Month. He is a member of the Class of 1955, and had the honor of being elected vice president of his class. Academically, he has received high marks consistently and is Salutatorian of his class. He is sixteen years of age, stands five foot



Albert E. Merrill

eight, and weighs 151 pounds. He came here in January, 1954.

Soon after his enrollment he showed initiative as well as interest in our dairy and was selected to help operate the milking machines and to process the milk. He soon became a valuable member of our dairy team and this work has been his chief interest during almost all of his school days with us.

He has an excellent record in conduct, effort and good citizenship. He has placed three times on the Shaw Prize list, and is

a Hayden Scholarship winner. He is a monitor in Hayden Dormitory B. He is a member of the percussion section of our school band.

He is an excellent athlete, being a top-notch tennis player as well as a varsity player in both football and basketball. He likes baseball, track and all water sports.

In September he will begin his junior year of high school work at Mount Hermon School, thus following in the footsteps of several F. T. S. graduates who are Hermon alumni.

Graduation

Graduation exercises for the Class of 1955 were held in Bowditch House on Thursday, June 9. Seventeen received the coveted diploma, our largest class in many years. Nine received sloyd diplomas. The Invocation was given by the Rev. Morris A. Inch, who did his student pastorate work here, and since those years has retained a warm interest in our School.

It was a distinct privilege, and a real pleasure, to have the President of our Board of Trustees present to deliver the address to the class. He stated the fundamental purpose of F. T. S. and told of plans for further expanding the work of the School. We appreciate very much his forthright and frank statement of the principles upon which our school has prospered for nearly a century and a half,

and will continue to guide us as we provide even greater services to the youth we serve.

Mr. Bartlett spoke of the outstanding, devoted career of Headmaster William M. Meacham, who is retiring after 29 years service. He announced that the Board of Trustees had prepared a Resolution praising Mr. Meacham for his good work. He read the Resolution, and then presented the beautifully inscribed and framed document to Mr. Meacham.

Headmaster Meacham presented the diplomas, prizes and other awards. The principal honor conferred annually is the Shaw Scholarship, which is awarded to the year's outstanding boy. Loren E. Cain was named the recipient of this signal honor. He was warmly applauded, and the BEACON adds its congratulations. A complete list of diploma students, together with prize and award winners, will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The Valedictorian of the Class, Richard T. Castonguay, and the Salutatorian, Albert E. Merrill, gave brief messages. The school band, under the direction of Frank L. Warren, had an important part in the program.

PROGRAM

Class Processional—Youth Victorious
Daniel W. Dockham, '56, Marshall

Invocation

The Reverend Morris A. Inch

Overture—Gypsy Festival
Band

Salutatory

Albert E. Merrill

Band Selection—Legionaires on Parade

Valedictory

Richard T. Castonguay

Introduction of Speaker

Headmaster William M. Meacham

Address

President Calvin Page Bartlett
Farm and Trades School
Board of Trustees

Presentation of Diplomas and Prizes
Headmaster William M. Meacham

Finale—Winning Colors

DIPLOMAS AWARDED

GRADUATION

Thomas Angelos

Gerald Leslie Briggs

Loren Ellis Cain

Richard Thomas Castonguay

John William Cronin

Albert Kingsley Ellis

William Franklin James

Frederick Leon Krueger

John Edward Lennon, Jr.

Albert Eugene Merrill

Paul Edward Parker

Gary David Schoonmaker

Carleton Gilbert Skinner, Jr.

Arthur Allan Sprague

Harold LeRoy Spurling

Basil Theodore Veglas

Steven Ray Wellington

SLOYD

Albert Kingsley Ellis

John Edward Lennon, Jr.

Alexander Demetre Marinakis

Albert Eugene Merrill

Stanton Henry Pearson

Arthur Allan Sprague

Harold LeRoy Spurling

Edward Michael Walker

Steven Ray Wellington

Important Notice of Expansion

The Board of Trustees of the School have for some time been engaged in a complete study of every phase of the work of our School, towards the end that we may render the greatest possible service to youth. Assistance has been obtained from experts in the field of education. The beliefs of the alumni were given careful consideration. A Plan has been formulated, the essential features of which are stated below. You may care to show this to parents of boys whom our School may serve.

The Farm and Trades School—In Brief

WHERE IS IT?

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor—15 minutes from downtown Boston.

WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?

It is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide boys with an excellent general education in a wholesome home school environment.

WHAT DOES IT PROVIDE?

It provides a full academic program for boys, grades seven through twelve, who wish to go to college. It also provides a well planned program for those boys who cannot go on to college.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any boy, between the ages of 11 and 17, not lower than the seventh grade, nor beyond the eleventh grade, and who has demonstrated good scholastic ability or promising manual skill.

The boy must be in good health, show a definite need for our type school, be emotionally stable and of proven high character potential.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Write for application blank to:
Headmaster Houghton D. Pearl,
Thompson's Island, Boston 4, Mass.

WHEN WILL I HEAR?

A representative of the School will

call on you if your application is in order. Final decision will be made not later than August 19. The Fall term begins August 27.

A Beach Party

We had a beach picnic on May 30, to help celebrate the holiday. We got together in groups of three or four and built fires. Then we got bacon and frankfurts and began cooking. We also had potato salad, rolls, relish, tonic and ice cream. After we finished eating Mr. Meacham gave us the prizes we earned during the holiday track meet. We all had a good time.

Richard B. Pulsifer

Additional Alumni Notes

JON F. HINES, a former pupil, attended Topsfield High School for one year after leaving F. T. S. in 1949. He then transferred to Brewster Academy in Wolfeboro, N. H. for continuation of high school work. He joined the Navy in 1951, and after a serious accident in 1954 he received a medical discharge. He is married and has a four months old daughter, Lydia. He attends the Bentley School of Accounting and Finance, and is working part time for the Commonwealth. The Hines live in Wakefield, Mass., at 138B North Avenue.

RICHARD E. MCPHEE, '47, a student at The New England Conservatory of Music, appeared with the Conservatory Chorus in a concert televised by Boston's newest station, WGBH-TV (2), on June 2. It was a superb concert, which many of us watched and enjoyed very much.

WILLIAM B. PRATT '39, is now located at Fairview Ave., Granville, Ohio. He was married in 1946, and the Pratts have a year old son, Timothy William. Bill works for the Newark Stove Company as a press operator. He visited July 15.

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George P. Denny, M. D.

Ralph B. Williams

Thomas Temple Pond

Mason Sears

Lawrence Terry

John Q. Adams

Alton B. Butler

Term Expires 1958

Gorham Brooks

Donald S. MacPherson

Philip H. Theopold

Augustus P. Loring

Robert H. Gardiner

E. Francis Bowditch

Myron A. Pratt

Advisory Committee

N. Penrose Hallowell

Edwin H. Place, M. D.

James H. Lowell

Charles E. Mason

Introducing Mr. Pearl

One of the last official acts of Mr. Meacham, as Headmaster, was to introduce his successor, Houghton Dean Pearl. Mr. Meacham has retired from his arduous duties, after 29 happy and fruitful years as head of our venerable 141 year old school.

Mr. Pearl is eminently qualified to carry on the work of The Farm and Trades School. He attended the public schools in Burlington, Vermont, and holds both a B. S. and Ed. M. degree from the University of Vermont. He did advanced work at Boston University, and has had more than four years study in the field of medicine. He began his teaching career in Vermont at Black River High School, and then became principal of Danville High School. For the past three years he has been principal of the high school at Vergennes, Vermont.

In his seven years as an educator Mr. Pearl has taught mathematics and science, and has done considerable work in the field of physical education, coaching almost every sport except football. He holds certificates from the State of Vermont for Professional Standard Teaching, High School Principal, and Public School Superintendent.

While doing college work he was a part time employee for the Vermont Transit Company, where he acquired valuable business experience, as well as becoming familiar with mail, plane and bus passenger and freight service.

He was in the U. S. Army for slightly more than three years during World War II, seeing considerable service in India, where he was a 1st Sergeant of a railroad Traffic Regulation Battalion.

Mr. Pearl belongs to many civic, church and professional organizations, among them the Vermont Education Association, Rotary International, Vermont

The greatest need of the world to-day is the rebuilding of the Christian spirit of service, the basic development plan at our home school. Why not help a fine, worthy boy achieve his goal by making a financial contribution to America's best investment?

Headmaster's Club and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

He is married, and Mr. and Mrs. Pearl, with their two children, Thomas S. and Herbert D., became residents of Adams House on June 28. Mrs. Pearl is a graduate of the University of Vermont, majoring in the field of Political Science.

Mr. and Mrs. Meacham graciously welcomed the Pearls to Thompson's Island, and were happy to leave the work in such capable hands. The BEACON warmly welcomes Headmaster and Mrs. Houghton D. Pearl, and may their years at The Farm and Trades School be many—and each one bringing to a further realization the full potential of our great little 141 year old home school. C. E. A.

Topics in Brief

The Class of 1955, seventeen in number, were graduated on June 9. No information is readily available as to early graduations here, but certainly some form of observance took place in our formative years, and thus this year, 1955, we observed our 141st Commencement. Speaker for the graduation was Calvin Page Bartlett, our Board president, whose talk launched a new era for our School, for henceforth we will be a Christian home school giving our students a full high school education. A full account of the Commencement will be found on page one.

On graduation eve Headmaster and Mrs. Meacham tendered the graduating class and academic staff an informal reception in Bowditch House. This is now an annual event, instituted by Mr. and Mrs. Meacham many years ago, and has become a traditional part of graduation week.

A program which conforms pretty well to class day exercises in most schools,

was staged by the Class of 1955 on June 6. The class prophecy, class will, and class biographies were features of the program which was directed by the class president, Loren E. Cain.

Mrs. Arthur Adams has for many years provided funds to pay for an annual excursion for the graduating class, a gift which is most appreciated. This year the class, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Meacham and the academic staff, enjoyed an outing to beautiful Canobie Lake, in New Hampshire, on June 7.

The annual field day of the Alumni Association took place on June 4. Many of the graduates have commented so favorably upon the excellent work of the Band this year that the boys did the marching drill for the alumni, a repeat, almost, of their spring music festival presentation, Reminiscing, ball games, other sports, or just visiting, made for a really great day. Lunch was served by the school staff, and the alumni were loud in their praise of the excellent lunch and service.

The annual outing of the Boston Rotary Club was held at the School on June 11. As is the case with all Rotary parties here, we had very little to do except to bid the Rotarians welcome. The Club committees had a busy day scheduled, and they well know how to set up a plan and make it work. We are happy for our association with Boston Rotary, and the Club is one of our strong boosters.

It has been a pleasure to have several groups visit us during the month. Groups from Squantum, Belchertown, and Milton have been numbered among our guests. Each of these groups held a picnic type party, and enjoyed using our athletic and recreation facilities and equipment.

One of the pleasantest events we have had in a long time took place on the evening of June 21 when the faculty and students tendered a Surprise Dinner for Headmaster and Mrs. Meacham, in Bowditch House. Although in no way a farewell observance, it was a fitting way in which to thank Mr. and Mrs. Meacham for their friendship and hospitality through the years. The instructors presented the Meachams with a lovely table radio, on which was attached a bronze plate, suitably engraved.

A day or two after this Dinner, Mr. Meacham suggested that we arrange a Get Acquainted party for the Pearl family. This was held in the form of a lawn party on June 28, and was a pleasant, informal and happy occasion.

Our farm has provided us with a plentiful supply of fresh vegetables this summer, including strawberries, rhubarb, lettuce, radishes, peas, beans, summer squash, and cucumbers. Most of the boys have had opportunity to do some farm work. The older boys have concentrated in getting in the hay crop. It looks like another banner year for the school farm.

The Boston Farm School Offering

Sixteenth in a series of articles reprinted from paper titled as above, Vol. 1, No. 2, May 1859.

ENERGY

MR. EDITOR,—I think the following, which is genuine, is worthy a place in your paper. As an example of heroism and energy, it is well worth the reading of boys and girls.

A few years ago, there lived among the rough granite hills of New Hampshire a little girl, eight years of age. She had not been bred in the "lap of luxury;" for, although her father was a "well-to-do" farmer, and her mother in the true sense an accomplished lady, yet they both

believed in preparing the girl for the physical hardships of life. She was allowed to be free as the air, and roam through fields and forests, and clamber up the steep hillside. Many were the trophies she brought home, and they sometimes told of wild adventures.

One bright morning in the month of June, after she had assisted her mother, and served faithfully in the little girl's department of household labor (wiping the dishes, &c.), she took her basket, and started, singing across the fields as "fancy led." She soon found herself in the forest, where stood the maple, spruce and hemlock trees full of leaves,—now looking down and then looking up for the birds and their nests. As she looked cautiously into the leaves, which were so thick that only a few scattered rays of the sun shone through, she spied a large bundle of dry leaves and sticks. What was it? Did it frighten her? Did she "cut" for the house, jumping stones and tumbling over fences, leaving her hat and basket behind, and declare that she had seen a bear's nest as big as a barrel and the bear was just coming out after her? Oh, no! for she was too familiar with the woods and the birds to call a *crow's nest* a bear's nest. She looked carefully to examine the location of the nest. A new thought was in her mind. There was a *bounty* on crows. "There must be at least forty cents worth in that nest. That is worth an adventure. I *know* they are *birds*. I know I shall be a nest robber; but they are *real ugly* birds for they pull up father's corn." So the resolute girl determined on the destruction of the black mischief-makers. She dropped her basket, and up she went: there was no other way. She was not used to climbing, neither was she used to giving up difficulties: she gloried that she had met new difficulties to overcome. She reached the nest (full

thirty feet high), captured the young crows, and descended to the ground "unscratched." She bore them in triumph to her father, who received for their heads—five in number—fifty cents. With this money the young miss was able to appear in a *new calico dress*.

This happy-spirited girl has grown to womanhood. The writer is well acquainted with her, and will describe her as follows: She is a member of the church, a popular and beloved teacher of children, an exquisite singer, and can make a good pudding.

NOTE: This completes the reprinting of "The Boston Farm School Offering," Number 2 of Volume 1, a copy of which came to us through the efforts of Alfred C. Malm, '00.

Other issues of this paper must be in existence. We would like to find them. It would be a great service indeed to locate them. Perhaps you would care to inquire at your local public library.

Beginning next month we will start a new feature—"Reminiscences" by our alumnus, Algine B. Steele, Class of 1895. We promise that this series will be of unusual interest to our readers. ED.

The Francis Shaw Scholarship

In 1936 Miss Miriam Shaw established the Francis Shaw Scholarship, in memory of her father. This scholarship provides a considerable part of the expenses of the year's outstanding student. Loren E. Cain was the recipient for the school year 1954-1955. No better choice could have been made. We congratulate him heartily.

Mr. Shaw served as a Trustee for 36 years, and was vitally concerned that every F. T. S. boy should have those teachings which would aid him to become a stalwart citizen. The Scholarship is indeed a wonderful, living tribute, to a great man.

Honor Roll — Fall Term

The highest academic averages in each class group

Sophomore Class

Richard T. Castonguay
Albert E. Merrill

Freshman Class

Carl H. Fletcher
Daniel W. Dockham

Eighth Grade Division A

Michael Tervo
Robert H. Grignon

Eighth Grade Division B

James A. Clough
Thomas C. Cronin

Seventh Grade

Kenneth D. Ford
John S. Krzyanowski

Sixth Grade

Ronald L. Zisk
Christopher A. Routenberg

Best Citizenship

"A" Rank general conduct and effort
in each class group

Sophomore Class

Gerald L. Briggs
Loren E. Cain
Richard T. Castonguay
Albert K. Ellis
Albert E. Merrill
Carleton G. Skinner
Steven R. Wellington

Freshman Class

Daniel W. Dockham
Howard E. Murphy, II
Stanton E. Pearson

Eighth Grade Division A

Robert H. Grignon

Eighth Grade Division B

Donald J. Oke

Seventh Grade

William H. Horn

Sixth Grade

William J. Boulter
Gregory F. Ford
George E. Hodson

The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

JOHN PATTERSON '43 President
W. Medford, Mass.

WILLIAM C. BURNS, '37, Vice-President
No. Wilmington, Mass.

GEORGE O. POOLE '27, Secretary
Medford, Mass.

DONALD S. MACPHERSON '17, Treasurer
Wollaston, Mass.

G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian
Hyde Park, Mass.

Alumni Field Day

The Annual Field Day of the Alumni Association was held on Saturday, June 4, with more than 200 present. Although all of our Field Days have been pleasant, happy events, it did seem as though this year the spirit of fellowship and general happiness, plus a fine program, made the occasion a real standout.

The school band, under the direction of Mr. Warren, met the alumni and escorted the group to the quadrangle. Here the band gave a marching exhibition, similar to those given at the school music festivals earlier this spring. The group was made welcome by the officers of the Association, after which our headmaster, Mr. Meacham, spoke briefly, stating his pleasure at seeing so many on hand and extending the greetings of the School.

The graduates then began, what to many is an annual ritual, that of visiting the dormitories, classrooms, chapel, shops, and other places where so many happy boyhood years were spent. As is always the case, a few who have been located in distant states, or in foreign lands, were in this part of the country for the first time in years, and these few were delighted with the forward steps taken by the School, especially with the buildings, new to them, in the beautiful quadrangle area.

Lunch was served at noon, the main dish being "Thompson's Island Baked Beans," supplemented by potato salad, rolls, ice cream, milk and coffee.

A surprise presentation was then made. Acting for the Alumni, Clifton E. Albee, Class of 1921, presented Mrs. Meacham with a floral tribute and our retiring headmaster, William M. Meacham, was pre-

sented a beautiful Paul Revere silver bowl, suitably inscribed. Mr. and Mrs. Meacham were urged to maintain their interest and devotion to the School, and particularly in the graduates. Mr. and Mrs. Meacham responded graciously.

Athletic activities were held in the afternoon. There was the annual feature, the baseball game, in which young and old grads took part. Some of the old-timers did a pretty good job, too, showing that they had not lost too much of their baseball skills. We can't recall just who won, as the scorekeeper and umpires relinquished their jobs too frequently. The game was a lot of fun for both players and spectators.

Meanwhile a softball game was in progress, as were horseshoe pitching contests. There were activities for all, and it was quite a job to terminate these sports so we could get on with the late afternoon feature, the program of stunts and races for the undergraduates.

All of the boys were invited to participate in the games and races, which terminated the day's events. There were races for young and old, including the perennial favorites such as the crab race, the wheelbarrow race and others. The judges had a job on their hands determining the winners in some of the events. Cash prizes were given the first three in each race.

This was the concluding part of the busy day's schedule, and the alumni soon began the homeward trek, pleased that the day had been so pleasant and happy an occasion. Congratulations to the Committee who did a splendid job in making the Field Day an outstanding success.



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Entered November 3, 1903 at Boston, Mass., as Second Class matter, under Act of Congress, of July 6, 1874

An Announcement

We have been asked many times just what our expanded program is. For this reason we have prepared the following very brief summary of our major features. Those who know the School well know that it would take a booklet of many pages to adequately describe our educational program, but we do hope that the following will give at least a fair picture of our school program. Perhaps you would like to keep it for reference purposes.

FARM AND TRADES—IN BRIEF

Location

The School is located on the beautiful 157-acre Thompson's Island in Boston Harbor—just 15 minutes from downtown Boston.

Historical

The School first opened its doors in Boston, in 1814. In 1833 it purchased Thompson's Island, which has been its home for nearly a century and a quarter. It began its 142nd academic year in September, 1955.

Purpose

The purpose of the School has always been to give a solid general education in a happy, homelike atmosphere. This year it has expanded its academic program to provide a college preparatory course for those wishing to go to college, and to give

a complete terminal education for boys who cannot go on to college.

Work Program

Each student spends at least two hours daily working in the various departments. Besides providing valuable experience, this work program gives each boy a sense of participation in the effective operation of the School.

The Alumni

The graduates assist the School in many ways, through the Alumni Association, and through personal contacts. Many of our alumni are successful in a host of fields. A keen interest is maintained in our graduates since it is fundamental with us that the Alumni are the School in every sense of the word.

Management

The management of the School is vested in a Board of Trustees numbering 26, who are professional and business leaders of Greater Boston. Included on the Board are six alumni.

Enrollment

The School welcomes any boy aged 11 or over and advanced as far as the seventh grade, who can demonstrate average or better scholastic ability and who characterizes good potential for citizenship. The candidate must be in good health, and have a reasonably serious

life purpose in addition to actually wanting to become a part of our school. It is expected that the boy will spend a minimum of two years at the School.

Visitors

Visitors are always welcome, and arrangements may be made by contacting the school office.

Program

Farm and Trades offers a well balanced six year academic program geared to meet general college entrance requirements, and to provide a sound terminal education for those boys not equipped to do college level work. An extremely complete athletic program supplements the classroom activities. In addition, there are many cultural features including a fine band, a large chorus, forensics, dramatics, and other cultural functions. The boys have a full and rich program made all the more meaningful by small group participation in the aforementioned activities.

Enrollment Application

Application for admission may be made by contacting the Director of Admissions or the Headmaster. Each application receives personal and prompt attention.

PLEASE ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO

Houghton D. Pearl, Headmaster

or

Ralph E. Stevens, Director of Admissions

The Farm and Trades School P. O. Box 41
South Boston 27, Mass. Tel. GRanite 2-2884

Christmas Morning

The first present I opened was from my brother. It was a knife with a blade 5½ in. long. The second present a shirt and pants from my Uncle and Aunt in Maryland where I usually go in the summer for a vacation. They live on the Chesapeake Bay, where there are a lot of

crabs. There I get wet, muddy, and some crabs. The third present was a pair of socks from Ace, my sister's dog, who is part German Sheperd and Collie. I received many other presents, and had a happy time Christmas morning.

George E. Hodson

The Gorilla

The gorilla is the biggest animal in the monkey family. Most people think the ape is, but he is not. People think the gorilla will attack when one looks at him, but he will not. He will not kill unless he wants food. He will attack people if frightened, hurt in some way, or mad. You see, a gorilla does not know his own strength.

John L. Park

New Year's in New York

At twelve o'clock New Year's Eve I was watching a program called "New Year's in New York," on channel two. For entertainment there were songs by Paul Bailey and many other entertainers. At twelve thirty they took us to Times Square where they had a parade. I had a very nice New Year's Day. I hope you did, too.

Freeman A. Perkins

Christmas Vacation

On my Christmas vacation I went skating near my home in Brockton. My brother and I went to the Ice Capades one night. We thought it was a very wonderful show. It must have taken a lot of planning and rehearsing. Although I liked all the acts, the one which I remember best was the one in which 48 people skated in groups of twelve, each group dressed in the costumes of policemen, gas station attendants, men from Mars and women from Mars.

William H. Cain

Christmas

I spent Christmas Eve at my grandmother's home, and opened my gifts there. I received a combination tool for one gift. It was a hammer with extra tools in the handle. I also received a slide rule and a note saying that my bike was repaired, and an electric set.

On Christmas night I went to my aunt's house. We sang carols and then I opened more presents. I received a crystal radio, a box of pencils with my name on them and other things.

I received many gifts, and didn't bring them all back to School because I returned by train. They are at my home in Fairfield for me to enjoy on my next vacation.

Malcolm C. McKay

Our Movies

We consider our weekly movies very good. Hardly ever does anyone complain. We have westerns, adventure films, musicals, dramas and other kinds of movies. The movies are shown each Saturday night, and often on holidays. We get them from a different company each year, so that we don't see the same movie a year later. On holidays or on other special days we get an especially good film.

Well, that goes to show that we, here on Thompson's Island, have one of the best film selections possible.

Ronald L. Zisk

Christmas Vacation

During Christmas vacation I had a lot of fun. We didn't have too much snow, but there was a lot of ice.

My brother John and I have been building a log cabin ever since Thanksgiving vacation. We are making it out of plain logs, just as they did in the old days. The only tools we use are a saw, axe and hatchet.

It was good skating at home. One night as I went to skate I saw a lot of cars. I wondered what it could be. As I got closer I found that it was a big fire. It was a barn across the road. All five of the county's fire engines were there. The next day the fire was pretty well out and half of the barn was saved. They pumped water from the pond we skate on so that the ice began to sag, and get big cracks.

My little brother had the chicken pox when I came home and when I left my little sister had them. I think I had a pretty exciting vacation.

W. Harrison Morse

My Work

My work is in the classrooms. In my spare time I work on the farm with Mr. Steves. Sometimes I help Mr. Dockham on the boat. When I work in the classrooms I sweep the floor, clean the erasers, and dust the rooms. Malcolm McKay and I each clean two classrooms plus the Study Hall.

Robert G. Wright

Vacation

On my vacation I went to Wayland, Mass., to visit my cousin. There I took lots of pictures. When I came home I went to the movies with my mother. We saw "The Courtmartial of Billy Mitchell." I also saw the "African Lion." I missed the 7:00 o'clock boat, and the 7:30 boat couldn't get into the dock because of low tide. I then took the 10:00 o'clock boat and got back at 10:30.

Robert C. Hanes

Quotes

"Christianity cannot take the place of thinking, but it must be founded on it."

"Speaking of Republicans—of course they're in trouble. They are in office."

"Smog? A nasty rumor started by tourists in LA who insist on breathing."

Thompson's Island Beacon

Published Monthly by

THE FARM AND TRADES SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor

A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS OF EXCELLENT
CHARACTER SUPPORTED BY ENDOWMENTS.
TUITION FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

HOUGHTON D. PEARL

HEADMASTER

Vol. 59 No. 10

February 1956

Subscription Price . . . One Dollar Per Year

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The greatest need of the world to-day is the rebuilding of the Christian spirit of service, the basic development plan at our home school. Why not help a fine, worthy boy achieve his goal by making a financial contribution to America's best investment?

We believe that some school pupils since time immemorial have wondered over the practical value of such courses as ancient history, English grammar and the like. It is not uncommon to hear a youngster say, "Why learn these dry facts; I'll soon forget them." Now that mid-years has arrived, and a new semester about to begin, it will be wise to think about education and study. Why are we in school?

When we use the word *Education* we should pause and consider its real meaning. The word is derived from Latin words meaning to "draw forth." We ordinarily believe, of course, that it is through education that the processes by which the powers and capabilities of the mind are developed.

To those boys who question the assimilation of "dry facts" it should be pointed out that this is in no way the meaning of education. We do not go to school to learn facts. Rather, education is the process of developing one's mind and directing its growth, so that it may act vigorously and intelligently.

The method of arriving at a given solution is the important point in education. True, in mathematics we solve many problems, and if we have the correct answers we earn a high grade. Yet, the method used is the real test; if one has learned the rules he has the ability of solving any number of problems.

One may apply this reasoning to any department of learning. As it is true in the classroom it is also true in sloyd. One may never again make a letter opener or a tool chest. But the ability to use tools has been gained, and one is ready for problems involving the woodworking processes learned.

Education gives one power to apply his learning throughout his lifetime.

When one is trained he may successfully overcome the difficulties and problems encountered in adult life. Let us not then think too much on "cramming" dry facts, but rather on acquiring, through the learning process, a real education.

Topics in Brief

The Rev. David Norton, rector of the Episcopal church at Marblehead, spoke to our boys at vespers on January 15. He had an excellent message, showing the viciousness of prejudice and urging each of us to strive valiantly for a brotherly understanding, especially in this period of global unrest.

Six of the boys, winners of the weekly Headmaster's Inspection, were invited to attend the Bruins-Chicago hockey game, at the Boston Garden on January 12, through the courtesy of Mr. Powers of the Garden executive office. In spite of the Boston loss, 5-0, the game was a thriller until the final few minutes. In fact, the Bruins outplayed the opposition until this time. Our boys got a thrill out of seeing such hockey favorites as Fergusen, Labine, Quackenbush, Sawchuck, and Costello of the Bruins and Mortsen and Bassen of Chicago. Our old friend and referee, Mr. Notto, who is the official sports timer at the Garden, said hello to the boys, as did other friends who were met at the game.

Once monthly a dinner is served to those who have birthdays during that month. The table is set in party style, and the menu is chosen so that a memorable occasion is assured. Mr. Kehew has the responsibility of setting the date and making arrangements for the monthly birthday party.

Although the boys are home every other weekend, those who are here have

had a good program of weekend activities arranged, an important part being the weekly Saturday night movie. These shows have been very much enjoyed, and we have projected top flight feature pictures weekly since school started last September.

We had a six inch snowstorm on January 17, which pleased our boys, for it was the first opportunity they have had to use their sleds this winter. Winter on Thompson's Island is a wonderful season, as far as the boys are concerned, when there is plenty of snow for coasting, and ice for skating. We hope for this type of winter for the next several weeks.

We have set up an additional office in the main building for the use of our bookkeeper, Mrs. Vivian DeLue. Our main office was simply too crowded to permit efficient work. The new office for the bookkeeping department has been very attractively redecorated and furnished. Its use will greatly aid in the work of the department.

Our plan of weekends at home for the boys has worked well this year. One half of the student body go on alternate weekends. The boys at the school invite their parents to visit here, so that we have many visitors every Saturday and Sunday. Our lounge and snack bar are open every weekend, and the Saturday night movie, basketball, and outdoor sports as weather permits, makes the weekends here pleasant recreational periods for the boys who do not go home.

The first semester ended on January 24, and on the following day the boys began taking their mid-year examinations. Three days were devoted to these tests, and the second semester commenced on January 30.

Ten of our boys, and three staff members, enjoyed a trip to the Poultry Show at Mechanics Building on January 17. All were very much interested in the many features of the show, especially in breeds of poultry which are uncommon in New England. Our poultry instructor, Mr. Kitching, was in charge of the group and made plans for the trip.

The varsity basketball team won its first game, then lost the next three. The boys are enthused and working hard, and expect a better showing in the victory column as the season progresses. Our two intramural leagues have their seasons well underway, and it does seem at this time as though the championship teams will not be determined until the final weeks of play, in March. We are having a fine season in basketball, with ten teams participating.

Going Home

When I went home the weekend of the 7th, the weather was nice Saturday and threatening Sunday. About six o'clock that night sleet and freezing rain began showering the Boston area, and freezing on the road. Howard Murphy was going to drive us back to the boat, but seeing how slippery it was we decided not to go that night. Monday morning it was stormy, but I went to the railroad station and got the seven thirty train. When I got to South Station I met Howard. The weather was miserable. We got a bus in spite of it, which took us to City Point, where we got the boat and started over. It was very rough, like a roller coaster. Any boy who thinks we were lucky to be home an extra night doesn't know how lucky he was to be spared traveling in such rough, stormy, weather.

Earl A. Chamberlain

Reminiscences

By Algine B. Steele, '95

COTTAGE ROW — OTHER THOUGHTS

Cottage Row, of which I wrote last month, was located on the playground on a line just about where the south curve of the track is now located. There was a path or "street" in front of the cottages. The first cottage at the west end was Audubon Hall, next was the only cottage with a bay window, the "Tritonia." Then came the "Emerald," followed by the "Neteta." Still walking west to east we find the municipal building, known later as "City Hall." The "Crescent" was next, and the last cottage was the "Oakland." The hardware, shingles and clapboards were purchased but all the other lumber was found on the beach. The owners named their cottage, and each of the little structures had a sign board secured by the door. The cottages were painted according to the individual desires of the boys. As interest grew the number of cottages increased to twelve.

The Fence and Nathaniel Hawthorne

In those days, 65 years ago, there was a fence which went from the east bank clear across the island to the west bank. This fence was directly in back of Cottage Row. At the west bank it connected at an angle with another fence which stretched from the stone gates along the north end bank. The fence was nothing new, for when Nathaniel Hawthorne visited the island in 1837 he remarked that the boys "ranged themselves on the fence, and being dressed in blue, looked not unlike a flock of pigeons." Perhaps someday you may want to read the account of Mr. Hawthorne's visit, in his own words. It is published in "The American Notebooks."

Cottage Row, you see, was in the area marked by this fence. This was "bounds," and one of the first things a

new boy learned was to stay on bounds. I know you boys today have definite bounds also for your play area.

Cottage Row became quite well known, and about ten years after we began our government, Kurn Hattin at Westminster, Vermont, instituted a similar form of city government, which I believe was a novel feature enjoyed very much by the pupils at Kurn Hattin.

Clambakes

You will hear of clambakes now and then. Yes, we had them but they were not of special importance. Usually two or three of the boys who stood high in conduct would get permission to go to the beach. They would get matches, and borrow a pan from the kitchen, dig the clams, clean them and feast—provided they liked clams and had good luck cooking them. Nowadays, of course, it is forbidden by law to take any shellfish from Boston Harbor without a special license.

A Thought

In my contacts with other alumni I learn of the progress being made by our School. It is in transition now to becoming a modern school with educational advantages never before realized. It is to be hoped that a trained expert will be engaged to devote his entire time to "missionary work," that of promoting the advantages of our particular school to the New England public. The alumni can help with this also.

Look for the eighth interesting article in this series next month.

My work

My work is in the dining room, after lunch at noon and again after dinner at night. The work is made easier now that we have our new dishwasher, which

is more efficient than the old one. The dining room tables are arranged differently, too, and the new plan seems to be working well. Our instructor is Mr. Evans.

Thomas J. Walker

Additional Alumni Notes

KENNETH E. KEARNS, '24, following his graduation from the University of New Hampshire entered the employ of the Manchester Union and continued in newspaper work until 1952, when he became associated with the Brown & Bigelow advertising concern, a work which he has found entirely to his liking. He has three sons, one 16, another 12 and the youngest 7. Peter, the seventh grader, is an enthusiastic little leaguer, and last year was catcher of the State championship team.

Mr. and Mrs. Kearns hope to visit Thompson's Island in the near future, and bring their three sons. We know the Kearns family will have an interesting visit.

ALGINE B. STEELE, '95, whose column has appeared in the BEACON for the past several months, writes an interesting account of Christmas, 1955. He adds that he has a growing alumni correspondence with men of his time chiefly, including George Buchan, '97; Howard B. Ellis, '98; William A. Horsfall, '96; George Mayott, '99; Godfrey Meyer, '97; and also John Belham, '28. Although Mr. Steele gets around a little on crutches, he cannot travel far, and enjoys very much writing and talking about Thompson's Island activities, past and present. His address: 8 Palmer Hill Ave., Reading, Mass.

We are saddened to report the death of SAMUEL RICHARD WESTON, '13, of Milford N. H. in an automobile accident just before Christmas.

The Alumni Association of The Farm and Trades School

WILLIAM C. BURNS, '37, President
No. Wilmington, Mass.

JOHN E. KERVIN, '20, Vice President
Brighton, Mass.

GEORGE O. POOLE, '27, Secretary
Medford, Mass.

DONALD S. MACPHERSON '17, Treasurer
Wollaston, Mass.

G. GEORGE LARSSON, '17, Historian
Hyde Park, Mass.

HERBERT E. NOBLE, '23, is proprietor of a sales agency in New York, in which he represents manufacturers and importers, whose products he sells to variety chain stores, such as Woolworth's.

He lives in Larchmont, in his own home of which he is very proud. He has a son, 15, and a daughter 12½. Some day Mr. and Mrs. Noble, with their two children hope to visit Thompson's Island, and the welcome mat is already out! The Nobles live at 280 Rockingstone Avenue, Larchmont, N. Y.

LINWOOD L. MEACHAM, '41, has received many congratulations upon the excellent showing he made in his first bid for public elective office. He lost the election by a suprisingly close margin, even though he had no support from organized political groups. We congratulate him, and predict that, should he again run for representative to the General Court, he will win by a wide margin. Linwood, and his wife Ann, live in Hingham, at 9 Talbot Road.

WALTER J. TRENHOLM, one of our Liversidge graduates, is now located at 218 South Chandler Avenue, Monterey Park, in California.

LAWRENCE R. UNWIN, '20, is living in Wollaston, at 62 Willow Street, according to information received from our fellow alumnus Merton P. Ellis, '97.

Many alumni remember Ernest B. Walston, who is a former principal and Associate Headmaster of our school. He writes of his continued interest in Thompson's Island boys and in all our school

activities. He is Chairman of the Guidance Department, College of General Education, Boston University. We know that he will be of great help to us in our plans for our graduates, and we thank him for his concern for our alumni now at Boston University.

GEORGE H. BRUCE, '45, whose graduation with honors from the University of New Hampshire, and subsequent employment in the insurance business, was reported in this column recently, has written of changes in his plans. He states that he has a burning desire to teach English, and to that end he and Mrs. Bruce have decided to strive. Hence he has given up his insurance work and is once again enrolled at the University of New Hampshire studying for his Master's degree.

He adds a word of advice in an indirect manner when he writes "I'm glad my last year's marks were so good; I didn't know at the time how important that would be." Our pupils might well reflect on this statement.

HOWARD B. ELLIS, '98, we are pleased to report, is back at his office after recuperating from a series of three major operations. Although not in top shape yet, he is able to get about with the aid of a cane, and we all hope for a full speedy recovery. Mr. Ellis has been a staunch and loyal friend of our Thompson's Island school for nearly six decades, and has been a pillar of strength for the activities of the alumni association. We all pray for a return to complete physical vigor for him. His home is at 42 Warren Ave., Milton, Mass.